

said method comprising the steps of punching a hole through all the said layers of said first panel,

supplementing said sealant layer with molten sealant applied by extrusion coating, along the entire outer surface of said sealant layer, thereby occluding said hole, said molten sealant supplement functioning as the equivalent of a closure sheeting patch,

cooling said first panel and joining said panels to thereby form a drinking pouch.

Kindly delete claim 16 without prejudice.

*1st
2nd*
A2
[Kindly amend claim 17, as follows:]

17. (Once amended) A method of making a beverage container as described in claim 20, in which the punched holes are covered by said sealant layer, the width of the entire sealant layer, comprised of said molten adherence layer and said solid outer layer, ends up having a thickness similar to that of the finished flexible web material known in the prior art.

Kindly add new claim 20, as follows:

*1st
2nd*
A3
20. (New) A method of making a beverage container comprising covering punched holes by forming a sealant layer using extrusion lamination, said sealant layer comprised of two layers, a molten adherence layer and a solid outer layer,

said adherence layer spread uniformly on to the sheet, thereby occluding the entire surface of the front side web, including said holes,

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said outer layer placed unto said adherence layer during the production process, using said adherence layer as an adhesive in order to stick the web together.
